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Department of State TELEGRAM

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ACTION EA-20

INFO OCT-01 IO-16 UPW-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-08
L-04 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12
SAL-02 AID-28 RSR-01 /139 W
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P R 261125Z JUL 71
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7820
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
AMCONSUL DANANG
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Izenberg DATE 1/26/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUBJECT: BIG MINH ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY AND NAMES RUNNING MATES

1. DURING A RECEPTION EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE VIETNAMESE PRESS AT HIS RESIDENCE EVENING JULY 26, GENERAL DUONG VAN MINH FORMALLY DECLARED HIS PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY. MINH ANNOUNCED RESPECTED SOUTHERN CATHOLIC
LOWER HOUSE FIRST DEPUTY CHAIRMAN DR. HO VAN MINH AS HIS VICE PRESIDENTIAL RUNNING MATE AND CAO DAI SENATOR HONG SON DONG, PUBLISHER OF OPPOSITIONIST DIEN TINH NEWSPAPER, AS HIS SUPPLEMENTARY VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. MINH ALSO BRIEFLY DISCUSSED HIS PRESIDENTIAL PLATFORM, EMPHASIZING THE THEMES OF PEACE AND RECONCILIATION, AND AGAIN WARNED THAT HE WILL WITHDRAW HIS CANDIDACY IF THE ELECTION APPEARS RIGGED. HE DID NOT COMMENT ON KY'S CANDIDACY.

(1) 2. COMMENT AND FURTHER INFORMATION ON SUBSTANCE OF MINH'S REMARKS FOLLOWS.
BUNKER

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